

SECRETOLC 71-2126
27 December 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Meeting with Chairman Nedzi, Intelligence Subcommittee,
and Frank Slatinshek, Assistant Chief Counsel, House
Armed Services Committee, on 23 December 1971

25X1 1. Messrs. Maury and [] met with Chairman Lucien Nedzi, Intelligence Subcommittee, and Frank Slatinshek, Assistant Chief Counsel, House Armed Services Committee, in the Chairman's office at noon on 23 December 1971 and briefed them on the current situation in Laos; the intelligence community structure outlined in the President's directive of 5 November 1971; the FY 1972 budget and staff personnel strength; "deficiencies" in the present espionage laws; and [] application for employment which the Chairman inquired about earlier in the week. Chairman Nedzi asked about the Deputy Director's replacement, and at the suggestion of Frank Slatinshek, discussed his (Chairman Nedzi's) recent press releases.

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2. Laos

a. Mr. Maury detailed the recent events in Laos with some emphasis on:

1. The pressures brought to bear against Prime Minister Souvanna Phouma by the Laotian Communist leader, Souphanouvong, to accept the Communist demand for a complete bombing halt,

2. The Prime Minister's continued strong resistance, and

3. Support among his leaders.

Mr. Slatinshek noted for himself and the Chairman that it looked as if we could have been pushed out of Laos any time the North Vietnamese decided to commit sufficient men and

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material. Mr. Maury said that although that is a reasonable conclusion and that things do look difficult, unfortunately, in this type of warfare matters are never as good as we would like them to be and most often turn out not quite as badly as we would have expected. There are certainly difficult days ahead.

3. Intelligence Community Structure

a. Messrs. Nedzi and Slatinshek were given copies of the unclassified intelligence community chart which sets forth the additions directed by the President's directive of 5 November 1971. Chairman Nedzi pointed out that the briefings he has received from the various elements of the intelligence community since 5 November 1971 have been consistent and completely supported Mr. Maury's statements. Both he and Mr. Slatinshek were positive in their statements that they are unable to see that any real change has been effected in the community by the directive.

4. Deputy Director - CIA

a. The Chairman asked about the current status of the position of Deputy Director of CIA and was told that we do not have any definitive information on who the new Deputy will be although it is assumed that the President will appoint a military figure in continuation of the precedent that has been followed in the recent past. Some discussion was had on the relative merits of a military vs. civilian deputy in the light of the existence today of the Defense Intelligence Agency and the need for a freer passage of information between the White House/Executive branch community structure.

5. Press Releases

a. Frank Slatinshek raised the question with the Chairman of his recent meetings with United Press International representatives and the resultant publicity about the extent of the Chairman's knowledge of the intelligence community budgets. Chairman Nedzi was obviously uncomfortable that the question had been brought up but faced it squarely and in effect thanked Mr. Slatinshek for raising it on our behalf. He said that he tries very carefully when he meets with the press to avoid such situations and said that he told the press representatives that in his dealings with the intelligence community he had found cooperation. Even though he did not have the budget figures, he intended to get them. Chairman Nedzi noted that this portion of the interview was probably buried or dropped from whatever items had appeared in the press. He said that this is

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most difficult for a person in his position and asked that we not hesitate to contact him any time in the future if we are in any way concerned about such matters.

6. FY 1972 Budget and Staff Personnel Strength

a. The Agency FY 1972 budget request was detailed together with the personnel strengths and permanent staff positions for 1970, 1971, and 1972. Chairman Nedzi inquired whether the President's contingency fund was also utilized [redacted] for matters occurring during the year that had not been anticipated in the regular budget. It was explained that we have no access to the President's contingency funds but that some matters that traditionally would have come from the President's contingency fund prior to the establishment of the Agency are now charged to the Agency from time to time. Some discussion was had concerning local hire and Agency contract employees and it was noted that these positions are not included in the strength figures. No figures were given for the numbers of contract or local hire personnel.

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7. "Deficiencies" in the Espionage Laws

a. Due to press of time, the Chairman was given an extremely brief rundown on the studies that have been conducted on the inability of the Federal Government to prosecute for "leaks" and unauthorized releases of intelligence information. Some of the current action being taken by the Agency jointly with the National Security Agency to insure appropriate treatment of these subjects in the codification of the Federal Criminal Code were related. It was suggested that after Mr. Slatinshek has satisfied himself on the details of the proposed Federal Criminal Code, we would discuss the matter further with him.

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[redacted]

a. Discussed briefly with the Chairman the fact that the Agency, as all other branches of the Federal Government at the present time, is extremely limited in its ability to hire new personnel. [redacted] pointed out that he had reviewed the [redacted] file and found that the application had received full

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normal consideration. The Chairman said he did not want special attention on this case as he had pointed out, and that our letters to the individual provide an adequate background for his reply.

9. There are no followups from today's meeting.



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Assistant Legislative Counsel

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